

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system supporting the exchange and consumption of media using a common user interface, the system comprising:
 - a television display in a first home;
 - a first storage for storing media, in the first home, having a first associated network address, the first storage communicatively coupled to the television display;
 - a first user interface for display on the television display, the first user interface supporting the exchange and consumption of media, and having a first look and feel;
 - a personal computer monitor in a second home;
 - a second storage for storing media, in the second home, having a second associated network address, the second storage communicatively coupled to the personal computer monitor;
 - a second user interface for display on the personal computer monitor, the second user interface supporting the exchange and consumption of media, and having a second look and feel;
 - server software that receives a request that identifies one of the first and second associated network addresses, and responds by identifying the other of the first and second associated network addresses to support

the exchange via a communication network of media between one of the first and second storage and the other of the first and second storage for consumption; and

the first user interface and the second user interface being substantially the same user interface, the first look and feel and the second look and feel being substantially the same.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the media comprises at least one of audio, a still image, video, and data.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein the media comprises real-time video.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein consumption comprises at least one of playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and displaying data.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein the first and second associated network addresses are one of an Internet protocol (IP) address, a media access control (MAC) address, and an electronic serial number (ESN).

6. The system of claim 1 wherein the communication network comprises at least one of a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and a wireless infrastructure.

7. The system of claim 1 wherein the communication network is the Internet.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein the first and second user interfaces comprise a view having at least one media channel, the media channel comprising media available for consumption.
9. The system of claim 8 wherein at least a portion of the media available for consumption is user captured media.
10. The system of claim 1 wherein the first and second user interfaces comprise a view displaying information related to at least one media peripheral.
11. The system of claim 10 wherein the at least one media peripheral comprises at least one of a digital camera, a digital camcorder, an MP3 player, a home juke-box system, a multi-media personal digital assistant (PDA), and a mobile multi-media gateway device.
12. The system of claim 1 further comprising:
 - at least one media peripheral communicatively coupled to one of the first storage and the second storage;
 - a third user interface for display on the at least one media peripheral, the third user interface supporting the exchange and consumption of media, and having a third look and feel; and

the first, second, and third user interface being substantially the same user interface, the first look and feel, the second look and feel, and the third look and feel being substantially the same.

13. The system of claim 12 wherein the at least one media peripheral comprises at least one of a digital camera, a digital camcorder, an MP3 player, a home juke-box system, a multi-media personal digital assistant (PDA), a mobile multi-media gateway device, and a personal computer (PC).

14. A system supporting the exchange and consumption of media using a common user interface, the system comprising:

- a television display in a first home;

- set top box circuitry, in the first home, communicatively coupled to the television display;

- a first user interface for display on the television display, and having a first look and feel;

- a personal computer in a second home;

- a second user interface for display on the personal computer, and having a second look and feel;

- server software that participates in the exchange of the media, via a communication network, with at least one of the set top box circuitry and the personal computer to support the consumption of the media; and

the first user interface and the second user interface being substantially the same user interface, and the first look and feel and the second look and feel being substantially the same.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein the media comprises at least one of audio, a still image, video, and data.

16. The system of claim 14 wherein the media comprises real-time video.

17. The system of claim 14 wherein consumption comprises at least one of playing audio, displaying a still image, displaying video, and displaying data.

18. The system of claim 14 wherein the communication network comprises at least one of a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, and a wireless infrastructure.

19. The system of claim 14 wherein the communication network is the Internet.

20. The system of claim 14 wherein the first and second user interfaces comprise a view having at least one media channel, the media channel comprising media available for consumption.

21. The system of claim 20 wherein at least a portion of the media available for consumption is user captured media.

22. The system of claim 14 wherein the first and second user interfaces comprise a view displaying information related to at least one media peripheral.

23. The system of claim 14 further comprising:

at least one media peripheral communicatively coupled to one of the set top box circuitry and the personal computer;

a third user interface for display on the at least one media peripheral, the third user interface supporting the exchange and consumption of media, and having a third look and feel; and

the first, second, and third user interface being substantially the same user interface, and the first look and feel, the second look and feel, and the third look and feel being substantially the same.

24. The system of claim 23 wherein the at least one media peripheral comprises at least one of a digital camera, a digital camcorder, an MP3 player, a home juke-box system, a multi-media personal digital assistant (PDA), a mobile multi-media gateway device, and a personal computer (PC).